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Owing to the brevity of the work and the comprehensive plan of the writer, it has been necessary to omit the details and the romance of colonization, but sufficient attention has been given to the subject to demonstrate "how the settlements represent the outworking of important commercial, religious and political influences in England". The fundamental differences in the political organization and economic life of the various colonies, as also the contrast between the conditions and institutions of the colonies and the mother-land are briefly but for the purpose in view adequately treated. It is also worthy of note that all the British colonies in North America are included in this survey, not simply the original thirteen. Professor Andrews truly states, "No distinction existed between them in colonial times and none should be made now by the writer on colonial history." As already has been intimated, the distinctive contribution made by this little volume is through the fresh, clear, and simple presentation of the origin and development of the system of imperial administration. There is a wealth of information and illustration relative to the various phases of colonial administration comprised in the seventy-five pages of chapters VI.-VIII., much of which it would be difficult to find available elsewhere in print. But what is more remarkable than the encyclopaedic knowledge which commands our admiration and recognition is not only the author's grasp upon the material, but also his skill in presenting so scholarly, illuminating, and interesting a review of the colonial period within the compass of two hundred and fifty pages. The work, indeed, is a brilliant and masterly piece of condensation.

Those who have found this little volume of so much value, will be gratified to learn that it is the forerunner of a larger and more special study of the British administrative system, upon which Professor Andrews is now engaged.

HERMAN V. AMES.

*The Barrington-Bernard Correspondence and illustrative Matter, 1760-1770.* Drawn from the "Papers of Sir Francis Bernard" (sometime Governor of Massachusetts-Bay). Edited by EDWARD CHANNING, Ph.D., and ARCHIBALD CARY COOLIDGE, Ph.D., Professors of History, Harvard University. [Harvard Historical Studies, vol. XVII.] (Cambridge: Harvard University; London: Henry Frowde, Oxford University Press. 1912. Pp. xxiii, 306.)

THIS volume of unofficial correspondence between Governor Bernard of Massachusetts and Lord Barrington, a prominent official in the mother-country, is a welcome addition to the gradually growing list of printed sources. Confidential communications of this nature often reveal much that is hidden in the official despatches and, as a rule, their testimony carries conviction. There is extant a not inconsiderable mass

of such documents bearing on the history of the old British Empire. They can be found scattered throughout the personal papers of men like Coventry, Blathwayt, Wilmington, and Newcastle; and a number have been printed in the various reports of the British Historical Manuscripts Commission as well as in such collections as those containing the published correspondence of Randolph, Belcher, and Shirley. But this volume is unique in that the communications are entirely unofficial and, moreover, in most instances both the original letter and the reply are printed. The material was extracted from the voluminous Bernard Papers, which Jared Sparks purchased in England some sixty years ago and which now belong to the Library of Harvard University. In addition to these letters, the editors have printed in the appendixes some valuable illustrative documents from the same source.

These letters, it is true, add little to what was already known of this critical period in imperial history, but they are very valuable for the light they throw upon the spirit of the administrative system. Especially illuminating are Bernard's frank and explicit remarks about the relative importance and financial value of the various colonial governorships. Similarly, his persistent and protracted efforts to secure for one of his sons the reversion of the post of naval officer at Boston give an excellent insight into the forces controlling such appointments.

In general, Bernard appears to far better advantage than in the pages of the current American history of the Bancroft school; his portrait there as a blundering fomenter of friction is largely an imaginary one. Barrington, who is usually represented as an honest official with no firm political convictions, also appears in a more favorable light. He had both firm principles and political views; and, on one occasion chronicled here, he showed a delicate sense of honor, rare at all times and totally at variance with the traditional view of eighteenth-century political morality. In 1761, complaints against the collector of the customs at Boston had been forwarded to the proper authorities in England by Bernard; and, in addition, he unofficially explained the case to Barrington. Shortly before this Barrington had been made chancellor of the Exchequer and thus had acquired considerable influence in deciding the fate of this Treasury official. But he refrained from interfering, because, so he wrote, he thought it "would be unfair" on account of his relation to Bernard. The editors' gibe at Barrington as one of the "most successful of placemen who for three and thirty years fed at the public crib" is good literature but questionable history.

These letters also throw some light on Lord Botetourt's appointment in 1768 as governor of Virginia in succession to Amherst. It was charged at the time in the pages of Junius and in other sheets that this step was taken in order to provide for a needy courtier. This gossip has been repeated in many subsequent histories and is evidently accepted by the editors, who write that "the necessity for providing for Lord Botetourt" prevented Bernard from being transferred to Virginia.

Barrington's account should effectually dispose of this version. According to him, the state of Virginia was so alarming that it was thought necessary "a Governor and a man of great distinction" should reside there. As Amherst refused to assume the duties of his office, he added, "Lord Botetourt has been appointed in his room, a man every way fit for the business he has undertaken." In a subsequent letter, Barrington further wrote: "The News Papers have assigned other reasons for Lord Botetourt's appointment; but without the least ground. He never had an Idea of going to America till it was proposed to him."

GEORGE LOUIS BEER.

*Writings of John Quincy Adams.* Edited by WORTHINGTON CHAUNCEY FORD. Volume I., 1779-1796. (New York: The Macmillan Company. 1913. Pp. xxiv, 508.)

"I HAVE, indeed, had little apprehension of incurring the censure of writing too little", wrote John Quincy Adams to his father from the Hague. "My principal fear has been lest the charge of an opposite fault should be applicable. . . . I have sometimes given a latitude to opinions upon actors and events, which perhaps will be thought indiscreet." Whatever opinion the Secretary of State may have entertained of the discursive communications of this young diplomat, posterity has reason to be grateful to him for "descending into the detail of minute circumstances". Every reader of the monumental *Memoirs* knows the variety and wealth of his observations during a half-century of public service and a residence of a quarter-century at European courts. Indeed, one's first feeling is that of wonder that the archives of the Adams family can be made to yield sufficient new material to warrant a series of volumes of unpublished writings. This initial volume demonstrates that the undertaking is of first-rate importance.

While the primary purpose of the editor has been to print material relating chiefly to the public life of the second Adams, he has included many letters of rare biographical interest. For a period of nine years (April, 1785, to June, 1794), an important formative period in the life of Adams, the *Memoirs* are a blank; and the portions of the *Diary* published subsequently cover only the years 1787-1789. A score of letters judiciously selected from his correspondence with members of his family, therefore, adds materially to our knowledge of the young lawyer on the threshold of his career. He shared the fate of most young barristers. "I gain my causes", he wrote despondently to his brother Charles, "but I get no business". During this period of enforced idleness, he was drawn into politics, much against his conscience. "I have been really apprehensive of becoming politically known before I could establish a *professional* reputation", he wrote to his father. The publication of Paine's *Rights of Man* in 1791 provoked him to his first essay as a publicist. Under the pen-name *Publicola*, he addressed twelve letters